IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Scherer et al. (as

Examiner:

E. Morgan

amended)

Serial No.:

09/691,864

Group Art Unit:

3723

Filed:

October 19, 2000

Docket No.:

3616.177USI1

Title:

BLOCK SPLITTING ASSEMBLY AND METHOD

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EL 976594272 US

Date of Deposit: February 1, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Name: Teresa Anderson

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), it is respectfully requested that a three-month extension of time be granted in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action mailed August 12, 2003, said period of response being extended from November 12, 2003 to February 12, 2004.

Our check in the amount of \$950.00 is enclosed to cover the required extension fee for a large entity.



Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

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Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903

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Reg. No. 40,443

JAL:tlh

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